Action against economic offenders

334. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether raids against economic offenders from February, 1987 to January, 1989 have yielded Rs. 812.31 crores ('Financial Express'—29th March, 1989);

(b) whether 5654 persons were arrested for these offences;

(c) what is the minimum and maximum period for which they were kept in prison without trial; and

(d) how many of these offenders were in prison as on 1st January, 1989 in each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b) During the period February, 1987 to January, 1989 Income-tax, Anti-smuggling and Central Excise authorities seized unaccounted assets and goods worth about Rs. 805 crores. 5688 persons were arrested during the period.

(c) and (d) Under COFEPOSA Act, 1974 no person can be detained for a period longer than three months without obtaining the opinion of the Advisory Board and no person can be detained for a period more than two years in any case.

1055 persons were under actual detention under COFEPOSA as on 31.1.1989. State-wise figures are not maintained separately.

335. (*Transferred to the 5th May*, 1989)

Indian Cost accounts services

336. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the name of the authority responsible for administrating Indian Cost Accounts Service;

(b) whether it is a fact that the same authority is responsible for postings and transfers in the Service;

(c) whether it is also a fact that no systematic policy has been followed in regard to transfers and as a result officers have managed to stay in the same organisation for decades during their service career;

(d) what is the period for which an officer is allowed to stay as per the rules and how many instances of overstay have come to the notice of the authorities;

(e) whether his Ministry has taken any steps to rectify the situation; and

(f) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) The Indian Cost Accounts Service is administered by Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure).

(b) Yes, Sir. Postings and transfers of the officers of the service are made by Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure) in consultation with the Chief Adviser (Cost).

(c) and (d) There is at present no scheme in the Indian Cost Accounts Service in regard to rotational transfer. As far as possible, rotation of officers is being carried out in consultation with the participating organisations. As there has been a general shortage of officers in the Indian Cost Accounts Service, rotation of officers is being done, keeping in view the requirements of the participating organisations/ Ministries, their ability to spare officers at different levels and the availability of suitable replacements. Generally officers are transferred from one office to another, without disruption of work in the participating organisations on completion of 5 years' service. It is incorrect that any officer by himself has managed to stay in the same organisation for number of years.